

**Competition:** *The underdog in many products can pick and choose where it wants to hit the giant; the giant, by contrast, must defend itself everywhere.*—George H. Lesch, former president, Colgate-Palmolive

## POD commander tours HED

Visitors to Honolulu Engineer District are not particularly rare, but when the caller turns out to be the division commander, with offices on the third floor of the same building, something is afoot. This was noted when Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Carl A. Strock made his rounds recently of HED as part of his ongoing division orientation to POD's four districts. Only this time, the district was down the hall rather than across the Pacific as in the case of earlier visits Strock made to Korea, Japan and Alaska. It's all part of the continuing process leading toward a separate division and district here in Honolulu, said HED commander Lt. Col. Ralph H. Graves.

Thus it was during the first week of December that the POD commander made office and site visits that took him to Maui, the Big Island, and around Oahu. He visited virtually every office at Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter. Depending on one's point of view, said one employee, these are either the final days of a POD/HED operating division or the early days of the restructured separate division and district organization.

As POD and HED grow increasingly closer to becoming stand-alone organizations, this sort of thing will become a frequent event, said Raleigh Sakada, acting-chief of Engineering Services Division.

*(Right) It's "high-tech time" as architect James Pak, ET-TA, demonstrates 3-D modeling to Col. Strock as 1st Lt. David Troutman and Richard Schiavoni, ET-TE, look on.*



*(Above) Col. Carl A. Strock talking shop with surveyors (from left) Richard Abe, Henry Yonamine and Hollis Fletcher.*



Photos by Jim Dung  
Structural engineer Roland Chong, ET-TA, says, "This is great! This is the first time I'm meeting the division commander. Because of my job I probably wouldn't meet him otherwise."

## VERA/VSIP...

*Continued from Page 1*

separation of Headquarters POD and HED will take place at that time.

Each employee retiring or resigning under these programs was granted a monetary "incentive" at a rate determined by the formula used in calculating severance pay. While there was a ceiling of \$25 thousand per person, the actual amount received was based on the base pay of the individual, the number of years of civilian service, and an adjustment for age. The net payment is dependent upon the individual's tax bracket.